



PATENT APPLICATION

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of

Noriaki ODA

Appln. No. 09/739,620

Group Art Unit: 2812

Confirmation No.: 4739

Examiner: Ha Nguyen

Filed: December 20, 2000

For: SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE WITH COPPER-BASED WIRING LINES AND
METHOD OF FABRICATING THE SAME

STATEMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e)

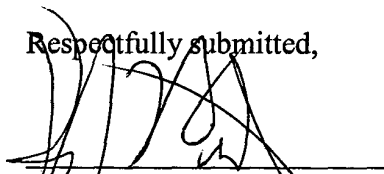
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

The undersigned hereby states, upon information and belief:

That each item of information contained in the Information Disclosure Statement filed concurrently herewith was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of said Information Disclosure Statement.

Respectfully submitted,


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Date: April 17, 2002

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**INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.97 and 1.98**

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

In accordance with the duty of disclosure under 37 C.F.R. § 1.56, Applicant hereby notifies the U.S. Patent and Trademark Office of the documents which are listed on the attached PTO/SB/08 A & B (modified) (substitute for PTO Form 1449) form and/or listed herein and which the Examiner may deem material to patentability of the claims of the above-identified application.

1. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. 9-283520, published October 31, 1997.
2. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. 10-261635, published September 29, 1998.
3. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. 2000-323479, published November 24, 2000.
4. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. 5-90262, published April 9, 1993.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/739,620

5. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. 8-17920, published January 19, 1996.
6. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. 11-330246, published November 30, 1999.
7. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. 11-238712, published August 31, 1999.
8. Japanese Unexamined Patent Application No. 8-139060, published May 31, 1996.

One copy of each of the listed documents is submitted herewith.

The present Information Disclosure Statement is being filed after the later of three months from the application's filing date and the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, but before a Final Office Action, Notice of Allowance, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application (whichever is earlier), and therefore Applicant is filing concurrently herewith a Statement Under 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(e). No fee under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17(p) is required.


In compliance with the concise explanation requirement under 37 C.F.R. § 1.98(a)(3) for foreign language documents, Applicant encloses herewith a copy of a Communication from the Japanese Patent Office dated February 19, 2002 in a counterpart application citing such documents, together with an English-language version of that pertinent portion indicating the degree of relevance found by the foreign office.

The submission of the listed documents is not intended as an admission that any such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application.

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
U.S. Appln. No. 09/739,620

Applicant does not waive any right to take any action that would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove any listed document as a competent reference against the claims of the present application.

Respectfully submitted,


Howard L. Bernstein
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